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A. List of Restoration Activities

The Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office (PSSCFO) manages the Riverside Mountains Wilderness Area (RMWA) located in Riverside County, approximately 25 miles north of Blythe near US Highway 95. This wilderness consists of an arid mountain range rising 1,500 feet above the Colorado River valley and lower elevation lands composed of many braided stream channels and dry washes. The popularity of the Colorado River for recreation has led to increased numbers in OHV users in the area, and as a result, unauthorized OHV activity is causing damage to both natural and cultural resources within RMWA. By Congressional definition, wilderness is an "area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man", and as such, all wilderness areas are closed to mechanized transport. Wilderness signs are in place to both delineate the boundary and inform users of this prohibition; however, they are largely being ignored and/or vandalized. These signing efforts in conjunction with law enforcement patrols have not been fully successful in deterring OHV activity within wilderness, and a more rigorous approach is required. Installing physical barriers, such as fencing, will delineate the boundary of the wilderness, thus improving OHV compliance. It will also help in retaining this wilderness area's character as well as protection of the natural and cultural resources. Once fencing has been installed and OHV intrusions have been minimized, emphasis will shift to restoring the impacted areas to a more natural state. Restoration crews will restore the line-of-sight behind the barrier to discourage future OHV trespass and to facilitate natural regeneration processes.

In 2008, the CA State Parks Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation commission awarded PSSCFO with a conservation grant (G07-01-13-C01) to construct three miles of fence along the southeast boundary of RMWA, one of the major vehicle access points. Due to the rising cost of fencing material and the additional need to secure the northern boundary, another major vehicle access point, funds in the existing conservation grant are not sufficient to secure all the OHV intrusions found throughout the RMWA boundary. Monies received for this proposed project would augment the existing grant by allowing purchase of additional material, thus completing fence construction along the most heavily trespassed areas along the northern and western boundaries. Projects will be completed concurrently, thereby saving on overall cost of both projects.

The following restoration techniques will be used:

A. Vertical and horizontal mulching – Dead plant materials arranged at the entrance of the non-designated routes help deter additional OHV use by acting as natural barricades and by blending the trail in with surrounding vegetation. Both vertical (planting dead plant material) and horizontal (placing dead plant material on the ground) mulching reduce the visual impacts of illegal OHV use by disguising the impacted area. As an additional benefit, vertical and horizontal mulching may promote natural re-vegetation of the desert by trapping wind-blown seeds, channeling rainwater, and providing additional shade to seedlings.

B. Soil pitting – The practice creates depressions in the ground which aid in directing surface water flow and wind-blown seeds to a focal area on the ground. The creation of these microhabitats serves to increase germination and plant growth.

C. Decompaction/ripping – Excessive soil compaction due to repeated vehicle traffic can reduce seedling establishment by affecting root penetration and growth. Decompaction of soils will be accomplished using hand tools such as shovels, rakes, and pick axes.

D. Raking – Some OHV incursions are the result of a single trespass or trails with little to no trampling of vegetation or soil compaction. These newly formed routes can be raked with hand tools to hide the evidence of tracks by contouring the soil in the tracks to match the surrounding land.

E. Seeding – If available, native seed will be collected on site and hand sowed across the treated area. Hand seeding may be concurrent with soil pitting to improve seed germination rates

F. Water bars – On sites where water erosion may become a factor, water bars will be installed to divert water flow away from the exposed surface of the trail, thus reducing its velocity and decreasing the amount of potential erosion.

G. Signing –Signing of BLM-designated routes prevents OHV users from inadvertently leaving the authorized trail. Restoration crews will maintain existing signs and place new signs as necessary along open and authorized routes

adjacent to the wilderness. Depending on the site needs, various signs will be used.

H. Physical barricades – Barricades will consist of fences to deter use in especially fragile areas. Fencing would be used to block access where bouldering or vertical mulching would not be effective or has not proved successful.

B. How the Proposed Project Relates to OHV Recreation

The objectives of this project are to provide safe and enjoyable use of public lands while minimizing impacts on natural and cultural resources, protecting wilderness values, and facilitating OHV compliance with regulations set forth by the Wilderness Act (1964) and the Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) land use plan (2002).

The restoration of unauthorized routes, trails, and tracks would result in no adverse impacts to recreation as they are not designated as open through the NECO plan. Use of these unauthorized routes is not necessary for the enjoyment of recreational resources in the area as there are several authorized routes available for use which border the wilderness and traverse the surrounding area. Fence construction will help keep unlawful OHV trespass, and therefore resource damage, to a minimum and ensure that responsible OHV riders will not inadvertently deviate from the authorized routes.

Providing clear routes of travel through installation of fence and informational signage should result in fewer citations issued by Law Enforcement and will reduce user conflict.

C. Size of Project Site

The Riverside Mountains Wilderness is 24,029 acres with a perimeter length of approximately 30 miles. Based on the locations of various repeated OHV intrusions, approximately four linear miles of fencing is required to secure the boundaries adjacent to the most heavily used authorized routes.

In addition to fencing, the average number of disturbed sites to be restored is conservatively estimated at a density of three disturbances per mile. The average length of the line-of-site restoration for each disturbance is 350 feet, and therefore, the total amount of restored area is approximately 0.8 linear miles.

D. Monitoring and Methodology

Site monitoring includes photo documentation, data on restoration prescription, and OHV compliance.

Photo documentation: Photo documentation for all sites consists of pre-restoration and immediate post-restoration site photos. Additional post-restoration photos and compliance monitoring will take place periodically for the next several years.

Data on Restoration Prescription: Initial monitoring includes general information such as date, time, site reference number, photo reference, and site characteristics including width, line-of-sight, current OHV use and frequency, past management, and type of trail (e.g. hill climb, wash, etc.). Follow-up monitoring documents the progress of on-site revegetation as well as any persistent disturbance by OHV traffic. If seeding is applied during the restoration process, a vegetation monitoring program will be implemented to measure post treatment cover and density rates to determine if seeding is a successful approach to restoration of sites.

OHV compliance: Follow-up monitoring documents restoration success in terms of OHV rider compliance. Compliance monitoring tracks success of restoration sites based on evidence of OHV use. If OHV use on a restoration site is absent, the restoration is considered successful. If OHV use on the site continues, it is considered unsuccessful, and other, more intensive methods of restoration (including barriers) will be used to obtain OHV compliance.

Local BLM Law Enforcement Rangers will continue monitoring the area, checking for OHV compliance and documenting any vandalism to the fence. Any intrusions into wilderness by OHV users will be relayed to the Palm Springs- South Coast wilderness coordinator. More intensive monitoring on restoration sites will be performed by restoration crews and/or BLM STEP and permanent employees.

E. List of Reports

F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews

G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area

The majority of the restoration areas will be protected from further OHV damage as they will be located behind the proposed fence. Additional signing along authorized routes and wilderness boundaries will reduce any possible confusion about which routes are open and authorized for travel, thus improving OHV compliance. The NECO plan states "Law enforcement patrols of the restoration sites must be increased in order to gain compliance with the rules and regulations established to protect these habitats". Patrol by BLM Law Enforcement of the project area by the Blythe Rangers is ongoing and will be increased during and after project completion to ensure integrity of restoration sites. In addition to LE patrols, the Wilderness outdoor recreation planner as well as seasonal employees and volunteers will monitor the restoration areas for illegal incursions. Areas of incursions and damage to the fence will be repaired as soon as they are documented to reduce further impacts to the restored area and to prevent proliferation of unauthorized routes.

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1. Project-Specific Maps

Attachments: Field Office Map

2. Project-Specific Photos

Attachments: Broken signs
Riverside Mtns closeup
Riverside Mtns wilderness boundary
Riverside Mtns wilderness boundary II
Wilderness sign closeup

	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # _____ APP # _____		
APPLICANT NAME :	BLM - Palm Springs South Coast Field Office		
PROJECT TITLE :	Restoration, Eastern Riverside County Wilderness Restoration	**PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :**	
PROJECT TYPE :	☐ Acquisition ☐ Development ☐ Education & Safety ☐ Ground Operations ☐ Law Enforcement ☐ Planning ☑ Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	The Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office (PSSCFO) manages the Riverside Mountains Wilderness Area (RMWA) located in Riverside County, approximately 25 miles north of Blythe near US Highway 95. This wilderness consists of an arid mountain range rising 1,500 feet above the Colorado River valley and lower elevation lands composed of many braided stream channels and dry washes. The popularity of the Colorado River for recreation has led to increased numbers in OHV users in the area, and as a result, unauthorized OHV activity is causing damage to both natural and cultural resources within RMWA. By Congressional definition, wilderness is an "area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man", and as such, all wilderness areas are closed to mechanized transport. Wilderness signs are in place to both delineate the boundary and inform users of this prohibition; however, they are largely being ignored and/or vandalized. These signing efforts in conjunction with law enforcement patrols have not been fully successful in deterring OHV activity within wilderness, and a more rigorous approach is required. Installing physical barriers, such as fencing, will delineate the boundary of the wilderness, thus improving OHV compliance. It will also help in retaining this wilderness area's character as well as protection of the natural and cultural resources. Once fencing has been installed and OHV intrusions have been minimized, emphasis will shift to restoring the impacted areas to a more natural state. Restoration crews will restore the line-of-sight behind the barrier to discourage future OHV trespass and to facilitate natural regeneration processes. In 2008, the CA State Parks Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation commission awarded PSSCFO with a conservation grant (G07-01-13-C01) to construct three miles of fence along the southeast boundary of RMWA, one of the major vehicle access points. Due to the rising cost of fencing material and the additional need to secure the northern boundary, another major vehicle access point, funds in the existing conservation grant are not sufficient to secure all the OHV intrusions found throughout the RMWA boundary. Monies received for this proposed project would augment the existing grant by allowing purchase of additional material, thus completing fence construction along the most heavily trespassed areas along the northern and western boundaries. Projects will be completed concurrently, thereby saving on overall cost of both projects. The following restoration techniques will be used: A. Vertical and horizontal mulching – Dead plant materials arranged at the entrance of the non-designated routes help deter additional OHV use by acting as natural barricades and by blending the trail in with surrounding vegetation. Both vertical (planting dead plant material) and horizontal (placing dead plant material on the ground) mulching reduce the visual impacts of illegal OHV use by disguising the impacted area. As an additional benefit, vertical and horizontal mulching may promote natural re-vegetation of the desert by trapping wind-blown seeds, channeling rainwater, and providing additional shade to seedlings. B. Soil pitting – The practice creates depressions in the ground which aid in directing surface water flow and wind-blown seeds to a focal area on the ground. The creation of these microhabitats serves to increase germination and plant growth. C. Decompaction/ripping – Excessive soil compaction due to repeated vehicle traffic can reduce seedling establishment by affecting root penetration and growth. Decompaction of soils will be accomplished using hand tools such as shovels, rakes, and pick axes. D. Raking – Some OHV incursions are the result of a single trespass or trails with little to no trampling of vegetation or soil compaction. These newly formed routes can be raked with hand tools to hide the evidence of tracks by contouring the soil in the tracks to match the surrounding land. E. Seeding – If available, native seed will be collected on site and hand sowed across the treated area. Hand seeding may be concurrent with soil pitting to		

	improve seed germination rates F. Water bars – On sites where water erosion may become a factor, water bars will be installed to divert water flow away from the exposed surface of the trail, thus reducing its velocity and decreasing the amount of potential erosion. G. Signing –Signing of BLM-designated routes prevents OHV users from inadvertently leaving the authorized trail. Restoration crews will maintain existing signs and place new signs as necessary along open and authorized routes adjacent to the wilderness. Depending on the site needs, various signs will be used. H. Physical barricades – Barricades will consist of fences to deter use in especially fragile areas. Fencing would be used to block access where bouldering or vertical mulching would not be effective or has not proved successful.

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	**Staff**						
	OHV Coordinator	200.000	44.000	HRS	0.00	8,800.00	8,800.00
	Recreation Planner Notes : Term Employee	520.000	44.000	HRS	11,440.00	11,440.00	22,880.00
	Other-Biologist Notes : Biologist - Term Employee	520.000	40.000	HRS	10,400.00	10,400.00	20,800.00
	Archeologist Notes : Term Employee	600.000	46.000	HRS	13,600.00	14,000.00	27,600.00
	Recreation Planner	200.000	47.000	HRS	4,900.00	4,500.00	9,400.00
	Other-LE Ranger Notes : Law Enforcement Ranger - Blythe	1040.000	52.000	HRS	34,080.00	20,000.00	54,080.00
	Other-NEPA Specialist	200.000	54.000	HRS	0.00	10,800.00	10,800.00
	Other-GIS Specialist	200.000	38.000	HRS	0.00	7,600.00	7,600.00
	Other-LE Ranger	640.000	52.000	HRS	13,280.00	20,000.00	33,280.00
	Other-Volunteer Crew Hrs.	600.000	18.000	HRS	0.00	10,800.00	10,800.00
	Other-Intern Program Costs	8.000	450.000	EA	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Total for Staff				87,700.00	121,940.00	209,640.00
2	**Contracts**						
	Restoration Crew	2.000	31000.000	MOS	62,000.00	0.00	62,000.00
	Other-Fencing Contractor Notes : fencing contractor to include the cost of the contractor, all fencing materials and installation.	4.000	32000.000	MI	128,000.00	0.00	128,000.00
	Total for Contracts				190,000.00	0.00	190,000.00
3	**Materials / Supplies**						
4	**Equipment Use Expenses**						
5	**Equipment Purchases**						
6	**Others**						
7	**Administrative Costs**						
	Administrative Costs-Admin costs	1.000	6000.000	EA	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Total Program Expenses					283,700.00	121,940.00	405,640.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					283,700.00	121,940.00	405,640.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					**283,700.00**	**121,940.00**	**405,640.00**

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	87,700.00	121,940.00	209,640.00	
2	Contracts	190,000.00	0.00	190,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		283,700.00	121,940.00	405,640.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		283,700.00	121,940.00	405,640.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		**283,700.00**	**121,940.00**	**405,640.00**	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ○ Yes ◉ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ◉ Yes ○ No
(Please select Yes or No)

c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ○ Yes ○ No

d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

No wetlands or navigable waters are included within the project area. It has been determined that the project would not result in significant impacts on wetlands or navigable waters. It has been determined that this project in not likely to adversely affect, but to have a potential beneficial effect on sensitive species and their associated habitat. See pages 2 and 7-16 of the attached Environmental Assessment: CA660-07-43.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

The project would not result in adverse cumulative impacts. See page 16 of the attached Environmental Assessment: CA660-07-43.

Please refer to the following documents for additional information on cumulative impacts:

• California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 (as amended)

• California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment for the Coachella Valley (CDCA-CV), 2002

• Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) Coordinated Management Plan, 2002

• Yuma District Resource Management Plan, 1987 (as amended)

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

The possibility of the proposed action significantly effecting the environment due to steep slopes or highly erosive soils is negligible. Due to the nature of the project, heavy equipment used to install physical barriers would be limited to gently sloping areas with low erosion potential. Any efforts to close unauthorized OHV routes on steep slopes would be limited to work with hand tools. Surface disturbance because of the proposed action would be minimized by implementation of Best Management Practices (see attached document).

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

The project area is not within the view shed of any scenic highways and has no potential for damage to scenic resources associated with a state scenic highway. For a discussion of visual resource management in conjunction with this proposed project, see pages 7-16 of the attached Environmental Assessment: CA660-07-43.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ○ Yes ◉ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ○ Yes ◉ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

This project would not cause any indirect significant impacts that would cause user groups to go elsewhere, result in significant impacts off-site, or cause a significant increase in OHV use near the project site. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office (PSSC FO) provides sufficient legal OHV opportunities through the management of approximately 1,500 miles of Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) routes. Associated land use plans have already designated these authorized routes of travel. This project would not close any authorized routes of travel, but would only implement land use decision plans by closing and/or restoring user-created, unauthorized routes. An improved delineation of authorized verses unauthorized routes by way of signage, physical barricades, law enforcement, education, and/or restoration efforts would improve OHV compliance.

Please refer to the following documents for additional information:

• California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 (as amended)

• California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment for the Coachella Valley (CDCA-CV), 2002

• Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) Coordinated Management Plan, 2002

• Yuma District Resource Management Plan, 1987 (as amended)

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments: CEQA NEPA

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ○ 76% or more (10 points)
- ○ 51% - 75% (5 points)
- ◉ 26% - 50% (3 points)
- ○ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 12

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Domestic water supply (4 points)
- ☐ Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points)
- ☑ Stream or other watercourse (3 points)
- ☑ Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)
- ☑ Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats [1]
- ☑ Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species [1]
- ☑ Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species [3]

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

Streams/Watercourse: Many incursions into RMWA occur in the desert wash zones. The resulting damage to vegetation and surface disturbance results in increased erosion, turbidity and soil transport during intense rain events that frequent this area.
Soils: Sites devoid of vegetation on steep slopes are susceptible to increased soil erosion. Vegetative cover in the desert is critical to retain soil moisture and protect soil particles from eolian erosion. Fencing and restoring OHV-affected areas will protect vegetation and soil cover.
Sensitive areas: Illegal OHV activity in RMWA creates new trails and routes, and these negate the naturalness and other primitive characteristics of the wilderness.
T&E: Desert tortoise (G. agassizi): Federally Threatened. Continued OHV use destroys suitable habitat
Spec.Status: Cave myotis (M. velifer), desert bighorn (O. canadensis nelsoni), Le Conte's thrasher (T. lecontei). OHV noise may disturb breeding activities, crushes vegetation used for cover/food/nesting.

3. Reason for Project - Q 3.

3. Reason for the Project 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ◉ Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)
- ○ Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)
- ○ OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)
- ○ Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)
- ○ Management decision (1 point)
- ○ Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)
- ○ Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

The Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Land Use Plan (2002) shows the proposed project area lies within habitat classified as Category II. According to "Desert Tortoise Habitat Management on Public Lands - A Rangewide Plan" (1988), category II are habitat areas that may be essential for maintenance of viable populations, and the overall goal is to maintain stable, viable populations while halting further declines in tortoise habitat values. OHV use has been shown to have detrimental effects on the quality of tortoise habitat (Lovich & Bainbridge, 1999). Fencing has been shown to increase plant cover, biomass and species diversity in areas behind the fence (Brooks, 1995), and this project would help reduce the loss of suitable habitat for desert tortoise and other special status species.

4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 12

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- [x] Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- [x] Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- [x] Use of native plants and materials
- [x] Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- [x] Educational signage
- [x] Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

Site monitoring by BLM Law Enforcement, permanent/term staff, and other volunteers will ensure compliance by OHV users. Fence construction will help prevent OHV incursion into wilderness areas. During restoration, native plant materials will be used for vertical mulching and local seeds will be collected and applied to treated areas. Staff and crews will be following the BLM's established BMP's for restoration and construction activities. Signage will be installed to identify restoration areas, wilderness boundaries, and alternate authorized routes of travel near the restoration sites. BLM will increase the amount of signing along already approved routes of travel.

5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ○ No (No points)
- ◉ Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

The Wilderness Act (1964); The Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan (2002); The California Desert Protection Act (1994)

6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ◉ Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
- ○ Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
- ○ Other Grant funding (2 points)
- ○ OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

Long term monitoring, maintenance and repairs of the restoration site and fencing will be provided through BLM Appropriated funds in both the Recreation (L12200000) and Wilderness (L12100000) subactivities.

7. Public Input - Q 7.

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- ☑ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- ☑ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Conference calls with interested parties include the Colorado River Working Group.
Meetings with stakeholders include tribal consultations with the various Colorado Rivers indian tribes (ie-Quechan)

8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ◉ 4 or more (4 points)
- ○ 2 to 3 (2 points)
- ○ 1 (1 point)
- ○ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Due to the juxtaposition of numerous field offices and the Colorado River Strip, this area is managed by the Colorado River working group consisting of a partnership between five BLM offices: Needles, Palm Springs, El Centro, Yuma and Lake Havasu. All parties will be involved during the construction phase as well as the long term monitoring of projects in this area. The California Archeological Site Steward program provides oversight of the Blythe Intaglios and other cultural sites within the area. Monitoring of fencing and restored sites will also be conducted by Sierra Club and Wilderness Society members.

9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)
- ☐ Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)
- ☐ Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)
- ☐ Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ○ No (No points)
- ◉ Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

BLM LE Rangers and Riverside County sheriffs have expanded patrols in the area of the Riverside Mountains Wilderness in response to the increased OHV presence. Additional signage has been installed, and rangers will construct temporary minor trail barriers when they discover areas of new incursions. These actions, with the addition of fencing and additional public education, should help to significantly reduce undesirable activities in this area.

11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- (•) Greater than 10 acres (5 points)
- ( ) 1 – 10 acres (3 points)
- ( ) Less than 1 acre (1 points)
- ( ) No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)